

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A perforated tablet for the controlled release of a drug, the perforated tablet comprising a pharmaceutical composition, the pharmaceutical composition comprising a mixture of one or more than one enteric polymer and a drug, where the enteric polymer is substantially hydrophobic and substantially soluble in a substantially aqueous environment above a pH of about 5, and wherein the drug is released from the perforated tablet at a zero-order, or a near zero-order kinetic release rate, in the aqueous environment above a pH of about 5.
2. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 1, where the perforated tablet comprises a plurality of layers, where one or more than one of the plurality of layers is a substantially water-insoluble polymer, or a substantially water-soluble polymer, and where one or more than one of the plurality of layers comprises an enteric polymer and a drug.
3. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 1, where the form of the perforated tablet is a cylindrically shaped tablet, and where the perforation extends completely through the center of the cylindrically shaped tablet.
4. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 1, where the one or more than one enteric polymer is selected from the group consisting of a hydroxypropylmethylcellulose acetate succinate, a hydroxypropylmethylcellulose phthalate, a polyvinylacetate, and a polyacrylate.
5. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 3, where the one or more than one enteric polymer is a polyacrylate selected from the group consisting of an acrylate

polymer, a methacrylate polymer, a methylmethacrylate polymer, an ethylacrylate polymer, a copolymer comprising a combination of the preceding polymers, and a carboxylic acid functional group containing derivative of the preceding polymers and copolymers.

6. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 4, where the one or more than one enteric polymer is a polyacrylate selected from the group consisting of a methacrylic acid-methylmethacrylate copolymer and a methacrylic acid-ethylacrylate copolymer.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 1, where the enteric polymer is present in an amount of between about 1% and about 99%.

9. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 1, where the enteric polymer is present in an amount of between about 20% and about 75%.

10. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 1, where the enteric polymer is present in an amount of between about 35% and about 65%.

11. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 1, the pharmaceutical composition additionally comprising one or more than one binder.

12. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 11, where the binder is selected from the group consisting of a water-soluble cellulose, a polyethylene oxide, a polyethylene glycol, a water-insoluble cellulose, a water-insoluble polyvinylacetate, and a water-insoluble polyacrylate.

13. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 12, where the one or more than one binder is a water-insoluble polyacrylate selected from the group consisting of a water-

insoluble acrylate polymer, a water-insoluble methacrylate polymer, a water-insoluble methylmethacrylate polymer, a water-insoluble ethylacrylate polymer, a copolymer comprising a combination of the preceding polymers, a water-insoluble quaternary ammonium functional group containing derivative of the preceding polymers and copolymers, and a water-insoluble ester functional group containing derivative of the preceding polymers and copolymers.

14. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 13, where the one or more than one binder is a water-insoluble polyacrylate selected from the group consisting of an acrylate-methacrylate copolymer with a quaternary ammonium functional group, an ethylacrylate-methylmethacrylate copolymer with a neutral ester functional group, and an (ethylacrylate, methylmethacrylate) polymer dispersion.

15. (Withdrawn-previously presented) A method of making the perforated tablet of claim 1, the method comprising:

- a) mixing one or more than one enteric polymer and a drug to form a mixture, where the enteric polymer is substantially hydrophobic and substantially soluble in a substantially aqueous environment above a pH of about 5;
- b) compressing the mixture into a tablet; and
- c) forming a perforation in the tablet.

16. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 15, additionally comprising mixing one or more than one binder into the one or more than one enteric polymer and a drug to form the mixture.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Withdrawn-previously presented) The method of making the perforated tablet according to claim 1, the method comprising:

- a) mixing the one or more than one enteric polymer and a drug to form a mixture;

- b) compressing the mixture into a tablet; and
- c) forming a perforation in the tablet.

19. (Currently Amended) A perforated tablet for the controlled release of a drug, the perforated tablet comprising:

- a) one or more than one outer layer comprising one or more than one substantially water-insoluble polymer, or one or more than one substantially water-soluble polymer; and
- b) an inner layer comprising one or more than one enteric polymer and a drug;
where the enteric polymer is substantially hydrophobic and substantially soluble in an aqueous environment above a pH of about 5, and wherein the drug is released from the perforated tablet at a zero-order, or a near zero-order kinetic release rate, in the aqueous environment above a pH of about 5.

20. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 19, where the form of the perforated tablet is a cylindrically shaped tablet, and where the perforation extends completely through the center of the cylindrically shaped tablet.

21. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 19, where the one or more than one enteric polymer is selected from the group consisting of a hydroxypropylmethylcellulose acetate succinate, a hydroxypropylmethylcellulose phthalate, a polyvinylacetate, and a polyacrylate.

22. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 21, where the one or more than one enteric polymer is a polyacrylate selected from the group consisting of an acrylate polymer, a methacrylate polymer, a methylmethacrylate polymer, an ethylacrylate polymer, a copolymer comprising a combination of the preceding polymers, and a carboxylic acid functional group containing derivative of the preceding polymers and copolymers.

23. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 22, where the one or more

than one enteric polymer is a polyacrylate selected from the group consisting of a methacrylic acid-methylmethacrylate copolymer and a methacrylic acid-ethylacrylate copolymer.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 19, where the enteric polymer is present in an amount of between about 1% and about 99%.

26. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 19, where the enteric polymer is present in an amount of between about 20% and about 75%.

27. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 19, where the enteric polymer is present in an amount of between about 35% and about 65%.

28. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 19, where the inner layer further comprises one or more than one binder.

29. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 28, where the binder is selected from the group consisting of a water-soluble cellulose, a polyethylene oxide, a polyethylene glycol, a water-insoluble cellulose, and a water-insoluble polyvinylacetate, a water-insoluble polyacrylate.

30. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 29, where the one or more than one binder is a water-insoluble polyacrylate saselected from the group consisting of a water-insoluble acrylate polymer, a water-insoluble methacrylate polymer, a water-insoluble methylmethacrylate polymer, a water-insoluble ethylacrylate polymer, a copolymer comprising a combination of the preceding polymers, a water-insoluble quaternary ammonium functional group containing derivative of the preceding polymers and copolymers, and a water-insoluble ester functional group containing derivative of the preceding polymers and copolymers.

31. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 30, where the one or more than one binder is a water-insoluble polyacrylate selected from the group consisting of an acrylate-methacrylate copolymer with a quaternary ammonium functional group, an ethylacrylate-methylmethacrylate copolymer with a neutral ester functional group, and an (ethylacrylate, methylmethacrylate) polymer dispersion.

32. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 19, where the outer layer comprises one or more than one substantially water-insoluble polymer selected from the group consisting of a water-insoluble ethylcellulose, a water-insoluble cellulose ester, a water-insoluble polyvinylacetate, and a water-insoluble polyacrylate.

33. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 32, where the outer layer comprises one or more than one water-insoluble polyacrylate selected from the group consisting of a water-insoluble acrylate polymer, a water-insoluble methacrylate polymer, a water-insoluble methylmethacrylate polymer, a water-insoluble ethylacrylate polymer, copolymers comprising a combination of the preceding polymers, a water-insoluble quaternary ammonium functional group containing derivative of the preceding polymers and copolymers, and a water-insoluble ester functional group containing derivative of the preceding polymers and copolymers.

34. (Presently presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 33, where the outer layer comprises one or more than one water-insoluble polyacrylate selected from the group consisting of an acrylate-methacrylate copolymer with a quaternary ammonium functional group, an ethylacrylate-methylmethacrylate copolymer with a neutral ester functional group, and an (ethylacrylate, methylmethacrylate) polymer dispersion.

35. (Presently presented) The perforated tablet according to claim 19, where the outer layer comprises one or more than one substantially water-soluble polymer selected from the group consisting of a water-soluble cellulose, a water-soluble polyethylene oxide, and a polysaccharide.

36. (Withdrawn-previously presented) A method of making the perforated tablet of claim 19, the method comprising

- a) compressing a first outer layer into a die;
- b) mixing an inner layer comprising one or more than one enteric polymer and a drug to form an inner layer mixture;
- c) compressing the inner layer mixture into the first outer layer;
- d) compressing a second outer layer into the inner layer mixture to form a tablet; and
- e) forming a perforation in the tablet.

37. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 36, additionally comprising mixing one or more than one binder into the mixture comprising the one or more than one enteric polymer and a drug to form the mixture.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Withdrawn-previously presented) The method of making the perforated tablet according to claim 19, the method comprising:

- a) compressing the first outer polymer layer into a die;
- b) mixing the inner layer comprising the one or more than one enteric polymer and the drug into an inner layer mixture;
- c) compressing the inner layer mixture into the first outer layer;
- d) compressing the second outer polymer layer into the inner layer mixture to form a tablet; and
- e) forming a perforation in the tablet.

40. (Previously presented) A perforated tablet for the controlled release of a drug, made by a method comprising:

- a) mixing one or more than one enteric polymer and a drug to form a mixture, where the enteric polymer is substantially hydrophobic and substantially soluble in a substantially aqueous

environment above a pH of about 5, and wherein the drug is released from the perforated tablet at a zero-order, or a near zero-order kinetic release rate, in the aqueous environment above a pH of about 5;

- b) compressing the mixture into a tablet; and
- c) forming a perforation in the tablet.

41. (Previously presented) The perforated tablet of claim 19, made by a method comprising:

- a) compressing a first outer layer into a die;
- b) mixing an inner layer comprising one or more than one enteric polymer and a drug to form an inner layer mixture;
- c) compressing the inner layer mixture into the first outer layer;
- d) compressing a second outer layer into the inner layer mixture to form a tablet; and
- e) forming a perforation in the tablet.